

Curriculum Vitae

Anders Jensen

Harvard Kennedy School
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EMPLOYMENT

2022 – Associate Professor of Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2017 – 2022 Assistant Professor of Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2016 – 2017 Post-Doctoral Fellow, Long-Term Fiscal Policy
National Bureau of Economic Research, USA

OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2020 – Research Director, State Capacity Program
International Growth Centre, UK

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

2022 – Affiliated Researcher
Digital Identification and Finance Initiative in Africa, J-PAL
2020 – Faculty Affiliate
Center for African Studies, Harvard University
2018 – Faculty Associate
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University
2017 – Faculty Research Affiliate
National Bureau of Economic Research, US
2016 – International Research Fellow
Institute for Fiscal Studies, UK

EDUCATION

2010 – 2016 London School of Economics
PhD Economics
2013 – 2015 University of California, Berkeley
Visiting PhD student, Economics Department and Center for Equitable Growth
2007 – 2010 London School of Economics
BSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics

PRIMARY RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Public Economics, Development Economics

TEACHING AT HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL

- Second Year Policy Analysis (Graduate): Fall 2022/Spring 2023, Fall 2023/Spring 2024 (*Dean's Teaching Award*), Fall 2024
- Public Finance in International Perspective (Graduate): Spring 2019 (*Dean's Teaching Award*), Spring 2020 (*Dean's Teaching Award*); Spring 2021, Spring 2022 (*Dean's Teaching Award*), Fall 2023 (*Dean's Teaching Award*), Fall 2024
- Empirical Methods II (Graduate): Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020 (*Dean's Teaching Award*), Spring 2021
- Comparative Tax Policy and Administration (Executive Education): Summer 2018, Summer 2019, Summer 2022, Summer 2024
- Leading Smart Policy Design (Executive Education): Summer 2022

REFEREEING ACTIVITY

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, American Political Science Review, Econometrica, Economic Journal, Economica, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- *Activities at Harvard University*: Organizer of Faculty Seminar in Economic Development (joint with MIT); organizer of weekly Faculty Seminar at Kennedy School of Government; member of Dissertation Committee for PhD students (at Kennedy School of Government, Department of Economics, Department of Government)
- *Scientific Program Committee*: National Tax Association (2019); International Economic Association (2020); Econometric Society European Winter Meetings (2020); World Congress of the International Economic Association (2021); International Institute for Public Finance (2023); Northeastern Universities Development Consortium (2023)
- *Scientific Lead for Policy-Oriented Initiatives*: Tax for Growth initiative (since 2023); Senior Editor for VoxDevLit on 'Taxation and Development' (since 2024)
- *Grant Reviewer*: U.S. Agency for International Development; Agence Française de Développement; International Growth Centre; Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab; Data Science Initiative (Harvard University); Weatherhead Center for International Development (Harvard University)
- *Other Activities*: J-PAL African Scholar Mentor; lecturer in STEG virtual PhD-course 'Data in Macro Development'

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

2025	International Growth Centre (\$98,000)
2022	USAID Development Innovation Ventures (\$870,000), J-PAL Governance Initiative (\$74,000)
2020	International Growth Centre (\$128,000)
2019	J-PAL DigiFi Africa(\$75,000); Harvard Data Science Initiative (\$15,000); Center for international Relations at Weatherhead (\$15,000)
2018	J-PAL Governance Initiative (\$55,000); Carr Center for Human Rights (\$25,000)
2017	World Bank (\$65,000)
2016	International Growth Centre (\$115,000)
2013	Young Economist Award, International Institute for Public Finance

PUBLICATIONS

"Tax Equity in Low- and Middle-Income Countries" (with Pierre Bachas and Lucie Gadenne), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 38, 55-80, 2024.

"Informality, Consumption Taxes and Redistribution" (with Pierre Bachas and Lucie Gadenne), *Review of Economic Studies*, 91, 2604-2634, 2024.

"Norms, Enforcement, and Tax Evasion" (with Tim Besley and Torsten Persson), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 105, 998-1007, 2023.

"Employment Structure and the Rise of the Modern Tax System", *American Economic Review*, 112, 213-234, 2022.

"Size-Dependent Tax Enforcement and Compliance: Global Evidence and Aggregate Implications" (with Pierre Bachas and Roberto Fattal Jaef), *Journal of Development Economics*, 140, 203-222, 2019.

WORKING PAPERS

"Capital Taxation, Development and Globalization: Evidence from a Macro-Historical Database" (with Pierre Bachas, Matt Fisher-Post and Gabriel Zucman) *Revise and Resubmit, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

“Technology and Tax Capacity: Evidence from Local Governments in Ghana” (with James Dzansi, David Lagakos, and Henri Telli) *submitted*

“No Taxation Without the State: Bringing Tax Administration Back Into the Study of Tax Capacity” (with Jonathan Weigel) *Conditionally accepted, Journal of Economic Literature*

“Fiscal Externalities: Evidence from Tariff Reforms and Domestic Production Networks in Rwanda” (with Pierre Bachas, Anne Brockmeyer, Anton Reinicke and Gabriel Tourek)

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Empowerment in Equilibrium: Evidence from a Taxpayer Education Program in Ghana” (with James Dzansi, Nikhil Kumar, David Lagakos, Konstantin Poensgen and Henri Telli)

“Productivity Growth in Government: Evidence from Tax Collection” (with Radhika Goyal, David Lagakos and Abdoulaye Ndiaye)

“Towards a Cashless Economy? Evidence from the Elasticity of Cash Deposits of Mexican Firms” (with Pierre Bachas and Sean Higgins)

“Informational Barriers to Technology Adoption in Governments: Experimental Evidence from Local Governments in Ghana” (with James Dzansi, David Lagakos, and Henry Telli)

“Tax Incidence in the Presence of an Informal Sector: Evidence from a VAT Rate Increase in Mexico” (with Pierre Bachas, Lucie Gadenne and Mariana Racimo)

“Big Push? Experimental Evidence on Compliance Traps in Pakistan” (with Sher Afghan Asad, Michael Best and Adnan Khan)

“Collateral Accounts: Debt Recovery Through Electricity Metering in South Africa” (with Jeffrey Cross and Kelsey Jack)

“Determinants of Policy Choices: Evidence from Fiscal Shortfalls in China” (with Haichao Fan, Guanchun Liu, Huanhuan Wang and Jaya Wen)

“Tax Accelerations” (with Radhika Goyal)

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“State-Building in Resource-Rich Economies”, *Atlantic Economic Journal* [Best Undergraduate Paper Award], 39, 171-193, 2011.

“Aid and Public Finance” (with Markus Gstoettner), *Atlantic Economic Journal* [Best Undergraduate Paper Award], 38, 217-235, 2010.

SELECTED POLICY-ORIENTED WRITINGS

“Taxation and Development” (with Anne Brockmeyer and Lucie Gadenne), *VoxDevLit Review*, 2024

“Informality, Consumption Taxes and Redistribution” (with Pierre Bachas and Lucie Gadenne), *Microeconomic Insights*, 2024

“State Effectiveness” (with Oriana Bandiera, Michael Callen, Katherine Casey, Eliana La Ferrara, Camille Landais, Matthieu Teachout, Shahid Vaziralli), *IGC Evidence Papers*, 2023

“Administrative Data and Methodologies for Tax Policy” (with Pierre Bachas), *Tax for Growth Initiative Synthesis Paper*, 2023

“Evidence-Based Insights to Build Tax Capacity in Developing Countries”, *Background Report for Asian Development Outlook 2022: Mobilizing Taxes for Development*, Asian Development Bank, 2022

“COVID-19 and Taxes: Policies for the Post-Pandemic Recovery” (with Oliver Harman, Farria Naeem, Moussa Saab, Shahrukh Wani and

Nick Wilkinson), *IGC Policy Brief*, 2021

“Comments on the Government of Rwanda’s Medium Term Revenue Strategy” (with Nada Eissa, Andy Zeitlin and Anna Twum), *Policy Review Based on Request by Government of Rwanda*, 2021

“Survey of Local Government Taxation Capacity: Findings and Policy Implications” (with James Dzansi, Davis Lagakos, Isaac Otoo, Henry Telli, Cynthia Zindam), *Policy Research Report in Collaboration with the Central Government of Ghana*, 2018

“Strengthening Consumers’ Participation in VAT Compliance Strategies in Rwanda” (with Francois Gerard, Joana Naritomi and Andrew Zeitlin), *IGC Policy Brief*, 2018

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Danish, US permanent resident

Last updated: March 2025